

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 03480 262113Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
CAB-02 COME-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 FAA-00 IO-13 ACDA-12
HA-05 /106 W

-----062154 270536Z /13

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FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 718
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO
CINCPAC

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SOPN, PEPR, KS, US
SUBJECT: KOREAN MEDIA ON TOPICS OF US INTEREST, APRIL 26

REF: SEOUL 3439

1. TROOP WITHDRAWAL. PROMINENT COVERAGE ON RELEASE OF STRATTON REPORT. COVERAGE DETAILS SUBCOMMITTEE CRITICISM OF DECISION-MAKING PROCESS AND WITHDRAWAL PLAN ITSELF AND DETAILS SIX PROPOSALS IN REPORT. PRESS REPORTS STRATTON SAYING ASIDE FROM FIRST PHASE, HE WILL TRY TO PREVENT FURTHER WITHDRAWALS THROUGH LEGISLATION. ONLY COMMENTARY SO FAR IS TONGA ILBO WHICH SAYS REPORT RAISES POSSIBILITY COMBAT TROOPS MAY STAY UNTIL 1981.

2. PEACE AND UNIFICATION COUNCIL. 4/26 COVERAGE OF MEETING REPORTS FORMIN MADE FOLLOWING POINTS:

1) ROKG CAREFULLY REVIEWING MERITS AND DERIMITS
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OF TRIPARTITE PROPOSAL WHICH CONTAINS PROBLEMS FOR BOTH ROK AND DPRK;

2) CARTER'S TROOP WITHDRAWAL DECISION MOTIVATED BY CONGRESSIONAL INACTION ON COMPENSATORY PACKAGE, GROWING US OPINION AGAINST WITHDRAWAL, AND INCREASED COMMUNIST MILITARY POWER IN NE ASIA;

3) PREMATURE TO CONCLUDE ROK WILL BE EXCLUDED
FROM PYONGYANG TABLE TENNIS MATCH AND PREMATURE TO
CONSIDER US PARTICIPATION AS "PING PONG DIPLOMACY".

3. CBO REPORT. PROMINENT PLAY TO EXCERPTS PHILADELPHIA
INQUIRER 4/25 ARTICLE THAT CONGRESSIONAL BUDGE OFFICE
REPORT EXCLUDES KOREA FROM AREA IN WHICH US WOULD
DEPLOY SPECIAL MILITARY INTERVENTION FORCES. ONLY
SEOUL SINMUN HAS "HIGH DOD OFFICIAL" CLARIFYING
REPORT AS "NOTHING MORE THAN RESEARCH PAPER" AND
EXPLAINING REPORT HAS "NOTHING TO DO WITH US
ADMINISTRATION POLICY".

4. KAL AIRCRAFT. LARGE PLAY TO AP/MOSCOW REPORT
CITING "WELL-INFORMED SOVIET SOURCES" SAYING AIRCRAFT
FAILED TO RESPOND TO REPEATED WARNINGS AND ATTACK ON
AIRCRAFT WAS ORDERED BY "HIGH SOVIET AUTHORITIES".

5. MONDALE TRIP. REUTER CITES USG OFFICIAL
SAYING TROOP WITHDRAWAL PLAN WILL BE DISCUSSED BY
MONDALE DURING HIS PACIFIC TRIP BEGINNING 4/29.
SNEIDER

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Message Attributes

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Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, TROOP REDUCTIONS
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Draft Date: 26 apr 1978
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